

**City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women
Minutes of September 1, 2005**

Commissioners Present: Jillian Kinzie, Cathi Crabtree, Melanie Castillo-Cullather, Toby Strout, Debra Vance. **Staff Present:** Craig Brenner, Liaison, City of Bloomington Community and Family Resources Department. **Guests Present:** Regina Moore, Bloomington City Clerk, and Peg Bassett, Volunteer.

1. Meeting called to order by Jillian Kinzie at 5:36 p.m.

2. Request for Additional Agenda Items

A. Assignment of domestic violence editorial

B. Commissioner position open due to the recent resignation of Deborah O'Brien

3. Approval of August Minutes – Cathi made a motion to approve; Melanie seconded; minutes were approved as written.

4. Old Business

A. Data Report – Charts & Reports. At last month's meeting, Regina Harlig promised to provide portions of the Health section of the Commission's Report on the Status of Women in Bloomington and Monroe County that she had completed. As of the September 1st meeting, we had not received the completed sections of the report. Craig Brenner offered to follow up with Regina and request that information.

Jillian has been in contact with Bev Smith, MCCSC Human Resources staff. Bev is willing to assist with the Education section of the report and will be meeting with Jillian within the next few weeks.

Toby Strout distributed a portion of her report on the incidence and response to violence against women in Bloomington at the July meeting. She reminded the commissioners that comments are due by October 6th.

B. Women's Leadership Development. Melanie Castillo-Cullather, Toby Strout, and Cathi Crabtree volunteered to work on the Women's Leadership Development event. This event may be rescheduled for spring and may be included in the lineup of events being discussed for Women's History Month in March.

C. Women-Friendly Workplace Survey. Craig distributed Lee's draft report on the Quality of the Workplace for Women. The report is based on information obtained from both small and large employer samples. The commissioners will review the text and charts and submit comments to Jillian. Once all are satisfied with the report it will be made available on the

BCSW website. Jillian distributed a draft of her letter that will go out to those survey participants that have yet to respond. In the draft she will mention the fact that preliminary results have been posted on the BCSW web site. Craig will ask Lee to provide a list of employers that responded to the survey and identified themselves. The commissioners are interested in doing a follow up with the employers willing to be contacted.

D. Wage Equity Forum. No news to report.

E. Tracking Board & Commission Applications. The commissioners are satisfied with Regina Moore's efforts to track applications so this will be removed as an agenda item for future meetings. The group thanked Regina for her work in tracking the applications.

F. Women's History Month Lunch – March 8, 2006. All present participated in a brainstorming session to come up with ideas for this event. Possibilities include:

Luncheon at the Convention Center coupled with an evening event

Alternate luncheon with evening event year to year

Make the event a full day session and offer different types of workshops and speakers in a variety of venues

Approach Chamber as a partner and get involved with the Business Expo in April.

Consider Black Women's History in February, which is Black History Month, followed by a Women's History event in March, followed by the Business Expo, i.e., plan a series of events that focus on women

Craig will sign the contract with the Convention Center for the March 8, 2006 event.

5. New Business

A. Editorial on Domestic Violence. Toby Strout will write a guest editorial for the HT on domestic violence on behalf of the BCSW. The editorial will be published in October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

B. Commissioner's position opens on BCWS. Regina Moore has five applications on file from women who applied the last time an opening was posted. These applications are less than one year old so are considered still 'active'. The applicants are:

Amanda Barge - Child & Adolescent Therapist

Diane Gregory – Retired/Sales at Chico's

Dorothy Granger – Girl's Inc., Executive Director

Karen Brosius – Social Work, MSW

Patricia Jeffries – Business Owner, Closets Too!

Craig will email each applicant to find out if she is still interested in the position. In his email he will include the URL to the BCSW web page and an invitation to attend the next meeting.

Regina Moore, as part of her regular duties, will post the position and invite/encourage interested applicants to attend the October meeting.

6. Mail Report. Mail report was distributed but there was no discussion.

7. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Peg Bassett